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 SECURITY INFORMATION
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REPORT

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CD NO.

COUNTRY Hungary
 SUBJECT Economic - Organization, home industry, artisans
 HOW PUBLISHED Irregular newspaper
 WHERE PUBLISHED Budapest
 DATE PUBLISHED 27 Mar 1952
 LANGUAGE Hungarian

DATE OF INFORMATION 1952

DATE DIST. 22 Jul 1952

NO. OF PAGES 2

SUPPLEMENT TO REPORT NO.

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SOURCE Magyar Kozlony.

REGULATIONS GOVERNING HUNGARIAN ARTISAN COOPERATIVES

The main provisions of decree No 23 of the Council of Ministers of 27 March 1952 concerning artisan cooperatives are as follows:

An artisan cooperative is an organization of artisans or home-industry workers, in which the members carry out industrial production in common. An artisan cooperative is either an artisan producers' cooperative or a home-industry producers' cooperative.

In the artisan producers' cooperative, members are engaged in production in a common shop, although the management may permit certain members to perform their work at home. In the home-industry producers' cooperative some of the members work in a common shop and others at home. The latter may work with members of their families but are not permitted to employ outsiders.

The duties of the artisan cooperatives are: (1) systematic industrial production based on common ownership of the means of production; (2) technical and political education of members; and (3) popularizing the cooperative movement among artisans and enlisting them on a voluntary basis in artisan cooperatives.

For centralized control and representation the artisan cooperatives are to form associations in Budapest and in every megye. A KISZOV (Association of Artisan Cooperatives) may also be formed for several megye or separately for various branches of industry. An artisan cooperatives is authorized to function only if it is a KISZOV member.

The central organ of the artisan cooperatives and their associations is the OKISZ (National Artisan Association), which is under the jurisdiction of the Council of Ministers. The Council of Ministers exercises its control through the Minister of Local Industry.

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The OKISZ and the various KISZOVs may make recommendations to the various ministries, local councils, and other administrative organs on problems concerning the operation and development of the cooperatives. The various KISZOVs must submit their recommendations to the ministries and other state authorities through the OKISZ. The letter must be given a hearing before a decree concerning artisan cooperatives is promulgated. If a decree concerning the operation and development of artisan cooperatives is violated, the OKISZ and the various KISZOVs are authorized to call the offender to account.

An artisan cooperative operates on the basis of by-laws passed by its members and approved by the KISZOV and the OKISZ and has a work plan which conforms to the national economic plan.

Before beginning operations the cooperative must apply for an industrial license, which is issued by the executive committee of the jaras, city, or city district in which the cooperative is located. Full responsibility for the operation of the artisan cooperative rests with the cooperative chairman.

The industrial division of the megye council (or Budapest city council) will keep a register of the artisan cooperatives located in its territory. The register must contain the following information regarding each artisan cooperative: name, location, sphere of activity, date of formation, date of merger, and date of dissolution.

Provisions of Paragraphs 110-120 and 142-149 of the Labor Code are applicable in disputes between workers and the cooperatives. Disciplinary procedure and organization of a conciliation committee will be regulated by the OKISZ.

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